



**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION II  
SAM NUNN ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER  
61 FORSYTH STREET SW SUITE 23T85  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8931**

June 1, 2000

Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.  
ATTN: Mr. D. N. Morey  
Vice President  
P. O. Box 1295  
Birmingham, AL 35201

SUBJECT: NRC EXAMINATION REPORT NOS. 50-348/00-301 AND 50-364/00-301

Dear Mr. Morey:

During the period May 8 through May 12, 2000, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) administered operating examinations to employees of your company who had applied for licenses to operate the Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant Units 1 and 2. At the conclusion of the examination, the examiners discussed the examination questions and preliminary findings with those members of your staff identified in the enclosed report. The written examination was administered by your staff on May 18, 2000.

All three of the Reactor Operator applicants passed both the written and operating examinations. Of the eight Senior Reactor Operator applicants, five passed with three failing the written examination. A Simulation Facility Report is included in this report as Enclosure 2. A copy of the written examination questions and answer key as noted in Enclosure 3, was retained by your facility following administration.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the Commission's regulations, a copy of this letter and the enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Harold O. Christensen, Chief  
Operator Licensing and  
Human Performance Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos. 50-348, 50-364  
License Nos. NPF-2, NPF-8

Enclosures: (See page 2)

Enclosures: 1. Report Details  
 2. Simulation Facility Report  
 3. Written Examination and Answer Key (SRO)  
 (Document Control Desk Only)

cc w/encls:

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DATE	5/30/2000	5/30/2000	5/31/2000	5/31/2000	5/30/2000
E-MAIL COPY?	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION II

Docket Nos.: 50-348 and 50-364

License Nos.: NPF-2, NPF-8

Report Nos.: 50-348/00-301 and 50-364/00-301

Licensee: Souther Nuclear Operating Co. Inc.

Facility: Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant Units 1 and 2

Location: 7388 N. State Highway 95  
Columbia, AL 36319

Dates: May 8 through May 18, 2000

Examiners: M. Ernstes, Chief License Examiner  
L. Vick, License Examiner  
E. Lea, License Examiner

Approved by: H. Christensen, Chief  
Operator Licensing and Human Performance Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

### Farley Nuclear Plant NRC Inspection Reports 50-348/2000-301 and 50-364/2000-301

During the period May 8 through 18, 2000, NRC examiners conducted an announced operator licensing initial examination in accordance with the guidance of Examiner Standards, NUREG-1021, Revision 8. This examination implemented the operator licensing requirements of 10 CFR §55.41, §55.43, and §55.45. No significant issues were identified.

Six senior reactor operator applicants and three reactor operator applicants received written examinations and operating tests. Two additional SRO applicants retake the written examination. The NRC administered the operating tests during the week of May 8, 2000. The licensee administered the written examination on May 18, 2000.

## Report Details

Summary of Plant Status: Unit 1 was in an outage and Unit 2 was at 100% throughout the examination period.

### 4. OTHER ACTIVITIES

#### 4OA5 Other

##### a. Scope

The NRC conducted a regular, announced operator licensing initial examinations during the period of May 8 - 18, 2000. Three Reactor Operator applicants and six Senior Reactor Operator applicants received written and operating examinations. Additionally two Senior Reactor Operator applicants received a retake of the written examination. The examiners reviewed your training department's procedures and practices to ensure examination security and integrity.

##### b. Observations and Findings

Your staff developed the operating test and written examination in accordance with NUREG 1021, Revision 8. The NRC developed the written examination outline. The NRC administered the operating tests during the period of May 8 - 12, 2000. Your staff administered the written examination on May 18, 2000. There were no findings regarding examination security. All three ROs and four of the six SRO applicants passed both examinations. Two of the SRO applicants and one of the SRO retake applicants failed the written examination. The licensee submitted no post-examination comments on the written examination.

#### 4OA6 Management Meetings

##### Exit Meeting Summary

The Chief Examiner presented the examination results on May 12, 2000 to members of licensee management. The licensee acknowledged the examination results presented.

The inspectors asked the licensee whether any materials examined during the inspection should be considered proprietary. No proprietary information was identified.

## PARTIAL LIST OF PERSONS CONTACTED

### Licensee

S. Fulmer, Training and Emergency Preparedness Manager  
G. Laska, Plant Instructor  
G. Ohmstede, Plant Instructor  
W. Oldfield, Operations Training Supervisor  
J. Powell, Senior Plant Instructor  
L. Stinson, Plant General Manager

## SIMULATION FACILITY REPORT

Facility Licensee: Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant Units 1 and 2

Facility Docket Nos.: 50-348/2000-301 and 50-364/2000-301

Operating Tests Administered on: May 8 through 12, 2000

This form is to be used only to report observations. These observations do not constitute audit or inspection findings and are not, without further verification and review, indicative of noncompliance with 10 CFR 55.45(b). These observations do not affect NRC certification or approval of the simulation facility other than to provide information that may be used in future evaluations. No licensee action is required in response to these observations.

While conducting the simulator portion of the operating tests, the following items were observed:

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
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None